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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/939,199	08/24/2001	Jeffrey J. Norris	2316.1485US01	3383
23552	7590	10/17/2003		
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			EXAMINER LEON, EDWIN A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/939,199

Applicant(s)

NORRIS ET AL.

Examiner

Edwin A. León

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MAY

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-6, 8 and 10-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 9 and 11-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 13, 15.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's Response filed August 4, 2003 has been place of record in the file as Paper No. 16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Perrone et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,626,705). With regard to Claim 1, Perrone et al. discloses a system for use with jack assemblies (22) including front plug receiving ports (26, 28) and rear electrical card edge contacts (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) comprising: a chassis (20) having a front and a rear, the chassis (20) including a power bus (See Column 3, Lines 60-67) having a plurality of power plugs (See Column 3, Lines 60-67) for providing electrical power, the power bus (See Column 3, Lines 60-

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67) further including a power intake (See Column 3, Lines 60-67) for receiving electrical power, the chassis (20) defining a plurality of jack assembly receiving areas (where 22 and 24 are mounted) formed in the front of the chassis (20); and a plurality of mount apparatus (24) mounted in the chassis (20), each of the mount apparatus (24) including a power receptacle (31) for receiving electrical power from one of the plurality of power plugs (See Column 3, Lines 60-67) and a circuit board assembly (42), each of the mount apparatus (24) including front electrical contacts (33) and rear electrical contacts (32), the front electrical contacts (33) configured for contacting the rear electrical card edge contacts (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) of the jack assemblies (22). See Figs. 1-11b.

With regard to Claim 3, Perrone et al. discloses the chassis (20) further including first and second cable guides (See Column 3, Lines 60-67). See Figs. 1-11b.

With regard to Claim 4, Perrone et al. discloses a plurality of jack assemblies (22) each having front and plug receiving ports (26, 28) and rear electrical card edge contacts (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) that are electrically connected to the mount apparatus (24). See Figs. 1-11b.

With regard to Claim 5, Perrone et al. discloses the chassis (20) including slots (See Column 3, Lines 60-67) for retaining the jack assembly (22). See Figs. 1-11b.

With regard to Claim 6, Perrone et al. discloses the mount apparatus (24) including: a front cover (30) having a plurality of receptacles (31); a back cover (Fig. 7) having a plurality of through holes (where 32 and 33 are located); and wherein the circuit board assembly (42) is sandwiched between the front cover (30) and the back

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cover (Fig. 7), the rear electrical contacts (32) of the mount apparatus (24) including a plurality of pins (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) extending through the holes (where 32 and 33 are located) in the back cover (Fig. 7). See Figs. 1-11b.

With regard to Claim 8, Perrone et al. discloses the circuit board assembly (42) includes a circuit board (42) and a plurality of electrical terminals (33), the electrical terminals (33) including the front electrical contacts (33) of the mount apparatus (24). See Figs. 1-11b.

With regard to Claim 10, Perrone et al. discloses a system for use with jack assemblies (22) including front plug receiving ports (26, 28) and rear electrical card edge contacts (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) comprising: a chassis (20) defining a plurality of slots configured to receive top and bottom edges of the jack assemblies (22), a plurality of mount apparatus (24) mounted in the chassis (20), each of the mount apparatus (24) including: a front cover (30) having a plurality of receptacles (31) including electrical contacts for mating with the rear card edge electrical contacts (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) of the jack assemblies (22); a back cover (Fig. 7) having a plurality of through holes (where 32 and 33 are located); and a circuit board assembly (42) sandwiched between the front cover (30) and the back cover (Fig. 7), the circuit board assembly (42) including a plurality of pins (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) extending through the holes (where 32 and 33 are located) of the back cover (Fig. 7), the circuit board assembly (42) providing electrical communication between the electrical contacts of the front cover (30) and the pins (See Column 3, Lines 34-46) extending through the back cover (Fig. 7). See Figs. 1-11b.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 15 is allowed for the reasons given on the Office Action of December 4, 2002.

5. Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims for the reasons given on the Office Action of December 4, 2002.

6. Claims 7, and 11-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, the circuit board assembly including: a board having a plurality of through holes aligned with the receptacles of the front cover and the through holes of the back cover; a plurality of contacts retained in a first set of the through holes of the board of the circuit board assembly, a first end of each contact defining each of the electrical contacts of the front cover and being extended towards and exposed in a corresponding receptacle of the front cover and stopped by the front cover, a second end of each contact being extended towards and projecting toward the back cover and a trace electrically connecting each contact to each corresponding pin and in combination with the rest of the limitations in the base and intermediate claims.

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Response to Arguments

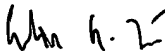
7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


Edwin A. León
AU 2833
EAL
October 10, 2003

P. AUSTIN BRADLEY
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